IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, please amend the paragraph beginning at line 16 as follows:

First, the IC tag transmits an identification number contained in that IC tag by a bit corresponding to a transmission request from the reception unit. The reception unit sends back one bit of received identification number to the IC tag. Then, the IC tag compares the sent-back one bit with the transmitted one bit and if they are equal, it transmits a next one bit and if they are not equal, the transmission is stopped because it means that other IC tag exists. Then, if the IC tag transmits all bits and is notified that the reception unit has received the identification number properly, the IC tag terminates subsequent response completely. By repeating this sequence, even if plural IC tags exist, it is possible to recognize them individually (see, for example, ~~Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 10-021691)~~ WO98/21691.